

INQUIRING INTO THE COST

Commercial Club Wants to Know About Telephone Rates. COMMERCIAL NOTES WITH OTHER CITIES. Committee Will Be Appointed to Make Necessary Investigation—New Members Are Taken into the Club.

Telephone charges in Omaha are to be the subject of an investigation by the Commercial club with a view of ascertaining whether or not the prices charged here for service is reasonable as compared with those charged in other cities. The executive committee of the club met at its meeting yesterday. The subject came up when a letter was read by the secretary of the club from C. H. Judson of the Twin City Telephone company of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

It was stated in the committee that formerly telephones were furnished Omaha business houses for \$5 per month, but now a charge of \$1.50 is made for 'phones on a metallic circuit, while no business telephones can be secured except upon a metallic circuit. It was stated that metallic circuit 'phones are furnished in St. Paul and Minneapolis for \$2.50 and \$3 per month.

After brief discussion the subject was referred to a committee of three members yet to be appointed, for investigation and report.

New Club Members. H. B. Peters and Edward M. Fairfield were elected to membership in the club.

Secretary U't called attention to delays experienced by jobbers of this city in the delivery of freights shipped to points in Iowa, suggesting that he be authorized to get out a book for the use of jobbers telling them just when freights can be shipped each day over the various lines and the times at which they ought to be delivered at the various points. He stated that jobbers might obtain delays by persistent work with railway officials. He was directed to get out such a book.

W. W. Umsted called attention to the ten days' outing to give the poor women and children of Omaha by the Salvation Army, saying that Senator Millard had agreed to take the matter up with the War department with a view of securing the use of Fort Omaha. He said that \$250 has been raised and that \$250 more will be needed, and suggested that members of the committee list and allow their employees to put down small amounts in aid of the funds. He circulated lists among the members to that end.

Maxwell Talks Irrigation. George H. Maxwell, the noted irrigation expert, outlined the plan of organization proposed in Los Angeles, where a committee of 25 of the most prominent business men has taken hold of the project and will push it every way possible, among others by interesting every eastern firm with which business is done. He said that the time has come for more positive and crystallized action than has yet been taken. The national irrigation association stands for three things just now. One is an appropriation of \$50,000 a year for geological surveys, the second is an estimate and plans for construction of storage reservoirs. The second is an appropriation for the construction of a reservoir at some point yet to be selected on the head waters of the Missouri river. Third, the passage of the Handbrough-Newlands bill introduced at the last session of congress, providing for the reclamation of arid government lands by means of reservoirs and the equipment of the government by the sale of the lands reclaimed. This would prevent the feeling in the east that the people of that section were being taxed for the improvement of the west. They have it in their hands to organize in Omaha, Kansas City, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Chicago as it is in Los Angeles it would bring an enormous influence to bear. All that he asked was that the plan of organization be endorsed by the club. Mr. Maxwell was in favor of the adoption of a motion by C. H. Pickens. Mr. Maxwell will go to Chicago on Wednesday, but will return in two or three days and begin the work of organization.

INCREASE IS VERY LIGHT

Total Assessed Valuation of Douglas County's Taxable Property. The total assessed valuation of taxable property in Douglas county as returned by the assessors this year is \$21,492,267.08. The total for the country precincts were published several days ago, but it was not until noon yesterday that Tax Clerk Solomon completed his figures for the city wards. The valuations as returned by the assessors last year and this year are as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Ward, 1900, 1901. Rows include First ward, Second ward, Third ward, Fourth ward, Fifth ward, Sixth ward, Seventh ward, Eighth ward, Ninth ward, Total city, E. Om. and country, Total county.

The Board of Equalization last year increased valuations to the extent of \$4,150,989, making the total equalized assessment \$21,745,978. The total of the valuations returned by the assessors this year is only \$14,288 in excess of the revised total for last year. Ten years ago the total assessed valuation of taxable property in Douglas county was \$25,737,051.

SUN GOD STRIVES FOR RECORD

High Score for Thirty James Bids Fair to Be Broken—Mercury Mounts Higher Elsewhere. The sun god girded up his loins yesterday morning and went after a record. The mercury had reached 97 degrees on Monday and the high record for thirty James Bids Fair to Be Broken—Mercury Mounts Higher Elsewhere.

WATERMELONS ON MARKET

Carload of Lucious Fruit from Texas is Offered in Omaha. Watermelons made their debut in Omaha yesterday. A carload of Texas melons was offered on the local market and found a ready sale at \$6 per dozen. The melons were of the 'Arkansas' variety and are superior in shipping. Arkansas melons are due in two or three weeks. Next week will probably bring large quantities of melons from the far south into the market.

AS GOOD AS DRAWN BLINDS

Young Man Paints a Street Lamp to Shut Out Public Gas. Frank Elsworth, an eligible young man of progressive ideas, painted one side of the gasoline street lamp so that the front porch of his girl's house out on North Nineteenth street would be shrouded in gloom. There was a hammock on the front line was standing in a saloon in East St. Louis, which was being used as a hide-out for a gang of thieves. Suddenly the roof fell in, he was killed over twice or three and landed on his feet with the glass still in his hand and half of the liquor still in it. He quaffed the liquor with relish, as his collarbone had been broken in the crash and he needed the stimulant.

Several Remarkable Specimens.

In South St. Louis there was a house whose entire north wall was blown away by a support under one of the windows and the window itself. The frame was not damaged and not one of the panes of glass was broken. A paperhanger was decorating the walls of a saloon opposite the Four Courts, when the front of the restaurant blew in and scattered debris through the house and street. The paperhanger was killed. A middle-aged German mechanic was walking along the railroad tracks east of Twelfth street, just after the storm, when the loss of his little daughter, another child, who was with him, found a bonnet that was recognized as belonging to the missing girl. The father thought that it was conclusive evidence that his little one was still alive, and he ran up and shouted that she wanted to get in the house, because it was getting too wet for her.

UNCLE SAM WILL TRADE BACK

Federal Government Stands Ready to Redeem Documentary Stamps. CERTAIN FORMALITIES ARE TO BE OBSERVED. Banks and Stationers Must Be Honored—Fiducial Owners of Stamps—Newly Appointed Collector of Revenue Reviews the Ground.

J. E. Houtz, collector of internal revenue, has received a ruling from Commissioner J. W. Yerkes in regard to the redemption of documentary stamps after July 1. The circular sets forth that banks and stationers cannot act as agents for the presentation of claims for their customers, but may purchase imprinted stamps which they had previously secured and sold. As the bona fide owners thereof they may present claims in their own names for the redemption of such stamps without regard to the number purchased from each customer.

CAPTURE HIM IN CHICAGO

Elmer Holmes of Plattsmouth Must Stand Trial for Perjury. Word was received by the police yesterday from Plattsmouth to the effect that Elmer Holmes, wanted there on a charge of perjury, had been arrested in Chicago and taken to the city jail.

GASOLINE STARTS A FIRE

Early Morning Blaze Slightly Damages Douglas Street Clear Store. Ignition of gasoline is given as the cause of a fire in a story-and-a-half frame building at 1230 Douglas street, occupied by Murray as a sign and news stand. At 5:05 yesterday morning a neighbor saw a flash of fire through a side window of the building and an instant later heard a loud explosion. He at once turned in an alarm.

FENCE LEADS TO TROUBLE

Charles Seal Swears Out Peace Warrant in Police Court Against Neighbors. Charles Segl, 4625 Decatur street, has sworn out a peace warrant in Justice Altstadt's court against his neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Murray, who live on an adjoining lot, alleging that he has reason to believe they will kill his wife and children. The trouble arose, Mr. Segl says, as the result of his building a fence between the two lots and denying to the Murrays the privileges of his well and pump. Since then he says they have been throwing bricks, beer bottles and other bric-a-brac at his family.

SEASONABLE FASHIONS

3842 Tucked Waist 32 to 40 in. bust. Women's tucked waist, no. 3842, to be made with or without the fitted lining. All white waists are not alone exceedingly popular, but are almost universally becoming. The present fashion is a simple illustrated combined crepe de chine with gipure lace and is made over a fitted lining, but the design is equally well suited to such fabrics as batiste, madras lawn, Swiss muslin, mull and the like, which can be made without the lining and so become washable in fact as well as name.

porch, but, unfortunately, no climbing vines to shield the occupants from the vulgar gaze of passerby. So he got a bucket of paint and a stepladder, and the broad effluence from the lamp was changed to a solid green obscenity. This would have worked all right had it not been for the protest of the man next door, one G. T. Franklin, who, as he explained it to the city prosecutor yesterday, "paid his taxes for that street lamp and didn't propose to have it snuffed out to promote the love affair of his neighbor's daughter." He wanted the young man arrested for defacing city property. Moderation was advised and the citizen, with a grievance finally abated that it would be better to have a heart to heart talk with the offender before filing a formal charge against him.

NEW BOOKS AND MAGAZINES

TRIBULATIONS OF A REAL PRINCESS. Story of Ezra Caine—Entertaining Story by Charles K. Lash—Home Thoughts—Picture of London Life—Netherlands Romance. Isabel Ritchey could not have selected a better or more appropriate name for her little volume of verse than the one which appears on the title page, "When Love Is King." This is the second volume of poetry by Mrs. Ritchey, the first having appeared some three or more years ago under the title "A Harp of the West." The first volume met with a most favorable reception, to which cause is doubtless due the "favor of a second volume, which gives promise of bringing the writer still greater praise. There is something about Mrs. Ritchey's verse that appeals strongly to the reader. In the first place, the language is simple and direct, and above all natural, while throughout the whole there is a vein of human sympathy and love that appeals directly to the heart. Hon. J. Sterling Morton contributes a preface to the present volume which describes so justly the narrative poem with a dash that is a vein of human sympathy and love that appeals directly to the heart.

SENATOR MILLARD AT HOME

Returns from Eastern Trip and Declines to Talk. Refers Callers to Other Investors. Senator, However, Tacitly Admits that Some Kind of Scheme is Pending and Full Details May Be Given Soon. Senator Millard returned yesterday morning from his visit to New York, where, it is understood, he has been along with the heads of several local corporations, consulting over the proposition for extensive consolidation. The senator preserves the same discreet silence as have the other gentlemen who were in New York at the same time concerning the result of the meeting. Unlike Mr. Nash of the electric lighting company, however, he did not attempt to specifically state that he had been east on the business indicated.

SENATOR STEELE IS IN TOWN

Jefferson County Statesman Talks of Prosperity at His Home. Senator Steele of Fairbury, president of the senate and by virtue of that office acting lieutenant governor, is in the city and county from the book is even published. "The Tribulations of a Princess." Whether the interest in the book has been caused by the mysterious unknown character of the writer, or by the fact that this author had already written the popular "Martyrdom of an Empress," or by the universal fascination exerted upon people generally by accounts of the inner life of royalties, it would be difficult to determine. "The Tribulations of a Princess" is an autobiography, told in the style of a romance. The adventures of a spirited woman of quality are charmingly related, and the reader has the additional satisfaction of knowing that it is all true. The volume is richly bound, and contains a number of interesting portraits of the royal personages with whom the princess was intimately associated. Harper & Brothers, New York.

FOR HOT WEATHER

A new line we offer this spring is Drexel L. Shooman's #2 hand turn soles—in either the regular Oxford style or southern, common sense and military heel—Black vic kid, with kid or patent leather tips—Another new one is our \$2.50 genuine welt sole oxfords in vic kid, Russia tan or black. These low shoes are the most sensible and comfortable shoe a woman can wear these hot days. Special care is taken in fitting these shoes.

ABSOLUTELY FREE

For the best written display ad of our piano department—ad to occupy space of 9 inches, single column, an elegant silk piano scarf. For the best written puzzle, with solution accompanying, fine piano duet bench. For second best puzzle, a beautiful piano stool. Three prominent Omaha newspaper men will be judges in this competition. Winners will be announced in next Sunday's Bee pictures. Contest closes Friday, June 28, 9 p. m. We reserve right to use any or all copies submitted. See premiums in our east window.

YOU COULD COAX ANY ONE

To buy a little barrel of our ice cream—it's so good—we know just how to make it, and know that it should contain only the very best material—Our ice cream is pure—and put up in one of those little barrels will keep cold for hours—Another advantage is you get three flavors—and a great big quart—enough for 8 people, for 40¢ a pint for 20¢—You can't take anything home this hot weather that will please the family so well as one of these little barrels—For picnics, societies, etc., we make a special price—Better come in and talk with us and try an ice cream sandwich.

BOOKS

Reviewed on this Page can be had of us. We can also furnish any book published. Barkalow Bros., "Book Shop," 1612 Farnam St., Phone 230.

Tornadoes' Freakish Work

The destructive tornado which desolated a portion of the Keya Paha valley in northern Nebraska last week made quite a contribution to the list of freakish capers which invariably characterize straight and rotary blows. Four horses were drawn into the vortex, three of them being against the ground feet foremost several times, each contact making sets of post-holes, and yet the animals were not seriously injured. A cat had its tail shaved to the hilt, but its hair on its body was not disturbed by the mowing, or teapots that flew with the gale was bent double. Many similar incidents of the storm are related, some of which tax credulity, yet so common are they in the history of tornadoes that they are not worthy of being corrected. In an Iowa town, two days ago, a piece of one-inch board was driven endwise through the trunk of a tree and nearly a stove shovel was embedded in a tree stump. Four years ago the most remarkable of Kansas freaks took place near Salina. A baldheaded man, while running for shelter from a tornado, was struck by such force that the ends were driven into his face, neck and crown of his head, securing a luxuriant crop of hair, whose restorative failed to produce in the preceding ten years. This story was universally accepted, but the fortunate Kansan secured photographs of himself before and after taking and confuted the doubting Thomases.

Five parlor chairs were lifted by the tornado from the Kariell house wreck at Redwood, Minn., in 1877, and placed in a row uninjured at the rear of the John McCall home. The house was crushed to pieces beneath the sandstone. The tornado at Kirkville, Mo., last year played some strange pranks. A 2-year-old child was carried 400 feet from his home, which was destroyed, and some of the inmates hurt, but the child was not injured. The residence of J. T. Coonfield was picked up and carried over 100 feet and dumped against a hill, though not completely wrecked. Coonfield's family going with it. All were badly shaken up, but none of them was hurt. The Webster family of three were carried a greater distance, their cottage was destroyed in its flight, but none of the inmates was badly hurt, but one of the holding on to a tree at the verge of the tornado's track to save himself from being swept into the air, caught a 12-year-old boy, he came down out of the sky. The boy, whose name was John Giesbrecht, was carried from his house, two blocks away, the house was leveled to the ground, but

Schlitz beer advertisement with logo and text: 'In the Schlitz brewery you will find a plate glass room. In it are cooling pipes, over which the hot beer drips. Above it is an air filter, and no air comes into this room save through that filter. No germs can reach beer handled with such care caution. But, after the beer is aged, we filter it, then bottle and seal it, then sterilize every bottle.' 'Cooled in Filtered Air' 'THE BEER THAT MADE MILWAUKEE FAMOUS'

Megeath Stationery Co. advertisement: '1308 Farnam St. Telephone 234.' 'Cooled in Filtered Air' 'THE BEER THAT MADE MILWAUKEE FAMOUS'

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You Could Coax Any One advertisement: 'To buy a little barrel of our ice cream—it's so good—we know just how to make it, and know that it should contain only the very best material—Our ice cream is pure—and put up in one of those little barrels will keep cold for hours—Another advantage is you get three flavors—and a great big quart—enough for 8 people, for 40¢ a pint for 20¢—You can't take anything home this hot weather that will please the family so well as one of these little barrels—For picnics, societies, etc., we make a special price—Better come in and talk with us and try an ice cream sandwich.'

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